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09/944,581	09/04/2001	Erika C. Dabney	D/A1189	2510

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EXAMINER

QIN, YIXING

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/944,581

Applicant(s)

DABNEY ET AL.

Examiner

Yixing Qin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

I. Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 16-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McComb et al (*Using WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows*) in view of Shima (U.S. Patent No. 6,676,309).

1. Claim 1

A print driver user interface method for printing a document, comprising:

- **receiving a number corresponding to a number of copies to be printed from an application;**
- McComb discloses on page 290 that there is a box for an user to enter a number of copies to be printed
- **receiving at least one command relating to an operation to be performed on each of the number of copies to be printed;**
- McComb discloses on page 290 that there is a print quality box to be set for the copies
- **displaying a first feature to a user;**
- McComb discloses a variety of features to the user as seen in the Fig. 8.1 on page 290.
- **offering the user a choice relating to printing copies of the document;**
- McComb discloses on page 290 that there is a print button (which prints the number of copies indicated)

- **transferring control of printing the number of copies from the application to the print driver.**
- McComb does not explicitly disclose that the control of printing is transferred from the application to the driver. The applicant's specification notes in Fig. 3 and on page 5, lines 3-5 that when the user clicks ok on a print dialog box, the control is transferred to the print driver from the application. The secondary reference, Shima, teaches this idea in column 7, lines 7-12.
- Both references are in the art of printing through the use of a print dialog. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the control of the printing to be transferred to the print driver. The motivation would be to ensure proper printing as this is a necessary step in obtaining a printed document.

2. Claim 2

The method of claim 1, wherein

- **said offering includes permitting the user to select a second number of copies to be printed.**
- McComb discloses on page 301 and 302 that an user can access print preference through the edit menu in WordPerfect. One can see that there is another box in there for the number of copies set to be printed. Similar options are also available on print dialog boxes of common programs like Word or Internet Explorer, where an user can choose print and then go to properties or

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preferences for a particular printer and select options related to the printer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display a dialog to enable a user to set a second number of copies. The motivation would be to enable a user to customize the number of copies to be printed on the printer instead of through an application program.

3. Claim 3

The method of claim 2, wherein

- **said offering includes permitting the user to select to transfer control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver.**
- From the last limitation of claim 1, one would understand that when the OK button is clicked by an user.

8. Claim 8

The method of claim 1, further comprising

- **displaying a second feature to the user that explains the purpose and function of transferring control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver.**
- Neither McComb nor Shima teach the displaying of a feature to explain the purpose and function of transferring control. However, the displaying of dialog/message boxes to help users or for explanation is well known (i.e. see Miller – U.S. Patent No. 5,442,687 and Palmer et al – U.S. Patent No.

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5,825,355). One can see the help button on the interface on page 290 of McComb. One skilled in the art would also know that many programs include a help menu for the explanation of how to perform various tasks. The Examiner asserts that the displaying of an explanation of a task performed is an obvious engineering design choice (i.e. similar to if one wanted to have a message box popping up displaying what the number of copies box is for or what the print quality box is for in a print dialog)

9. Claim 9

The method of claim 1, further comprising

- **reporting to the application that one copy will be printed.**
- If the user has selected one copy in the number of copies box, then one copy will be reported to be printed.

16. Claim 16

A print driver UI method for printing copies of a document, comprising:

- **offering the user a choice relating to printing copies of a document;**
- **transferring control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver;**
- Please see claim 1 above.
- **reporting to the application that one copy will be printed.**

- If one copy is selected, one copy will be reported to be printed.

17. Claim 17

The method of claim 16, wherein

- **offering the user a choice includes offering the user to select a second number of copies to be printed.**
- Please see claim 2 above.

18. Claim 18

The method of claim 17, wherein

- **offering the user a choice includes offering the user to select to transfer control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver.**
- Please see claim 3 above.

20. Claim 20

The method of claim 16, further

- **comprising displaying a feature to the user that explains the purpose and function of transferring control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver.**
- Please see claim 8 above.

II. Claims 4-7, 10-15, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McComb et al (*Using WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows*) in view of Shima (U.S. Patent No. 6,676,309) and further in view of Fischer (U.S. Patent No. 6,762,852)

Claim 4

The method of claim 3, wherein

- **said permitting the user to select to transfer control includes permitting the user to select there is a problem printing multiple copies.**
- Neither McComb nor Shima explicitly teach that an user can select that there is a problem printing multiple copies. However, the tertiary reference, Fischer, discloses in column 4, lines 66-67 and column 5, line 1-3 that an error message is displayed that tells the user that a printer is not capable of printing all the features required by the user and asks whether the user wants to print anyway. If the user is to select to continue printing, the user acknowledges that there is a possible error in the printing. Fischer discloses that the features that could be problematic on column 4, lines 51-56 and includes "number of copies" on lines 52-53.
- The Examiner would like to note that proofing/test printing a document is understand to be a way to print one copy of a document, which effectively addresses the idea of having an user check a problem printing multiple copies box and having the number of copies set to one. (Note Gauronski – U.S. Patent No. 5,164,842, Fig. 11)

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- All three reference are in the art of printing through the use of a dialog. This will serve as the motivation for the combination of these references from hereon. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to display a dialog to enable a user to acknowledge that a problem occurred with printing multiple copies. The motivation would be to enable a user to know a problem that occurred during the printing process so that the user may find a way around it.

5. Claim 5

The method of claim 1 wherein

- **the first feature informs the user that the application may have a problem printing multiple copies.**
- This claim has been addressed in claim 4 above.

6. Claim 6

The method of claim 1 further comprising

- **offering the user to select the operation to be performed.**
- One would understand that the options presented to the user on page 290 of McComb can be selected.

7. Claim 7

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The method of claim 1 wherein

- **the operation to be performed was selected by the user in the application.**
- From claim 6 above, once, the user clicked the OK button, the operation is performed.

10. Claim 10

A print driver UI method for printing copies of a document, comprising:

- **receiving a number corresponding to the number of copies to be printed from an application;**
- **receiving at least one command relating to an operation to be performed on each of the number of copies to be printed;**
- **displaying a feature to a user informing the user that the application may have a problem printing multiple copies.**
- These limitations have been discussed in claims 1 and 4 above.

11. Claim 11

The method of claim 10 further comprising

- **offering the user to select the operation to be performed.**
- Please see claim 6 above.

12. Claim 12

The method of claim 10 wherein

- **the operation to be performed was selected by the user in the application.**
- Please see claim 7 above.

13. Claim 13

The method of claim 10 wherein

- **the operation to be performed is duplexing.**
- Neither McComb nor Shima explicitly disclose duplex printing. The tertiary reference, Fischer, discloses in column 4, lines 45-56 a description of various features of an user interface to be used with his invention. Duplex printing is one of them.

14. Claim 14

The method of claim 10 wherein

- **the operation to be performed is stapling.**
- Neither McComb nor Shima explicitly disclose duplex printing. The tertiary reference, Fischer, discloses in column 4, lines 45-56 a description of various features of an user interface to be used with his invention. Although stapling is not one explicitly disclosed, this would be an obvious feature for one of ordinary skill in the art to have in a print UI.

15. Claim 15

The method of claim 10 wherein

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- **the feature also instructs the user on how to access the print driver UI.**
- Although not explicitly stated by the references, McComb's interface on page 290 has a help button. One of ordinary skill knows that this leads to a help menu in which an user can obtain information regarding how to perform various tasks. It would be an obvious design choice to simply pop up help boxes relating to performing a task when a user is choosing options for that task.

19. Claim 19

The method of claim 18, wherein

- **offering the user to select to transfer control includes offering the user to select there is a problem printing multiple copies.**
- Please see claim 4 above.

21. Claim 21

A print driver UI method for printing copies of a document, comprising:

- **receiving a number corresponding to the number of copies to be printed from an application;**
- Please see claim 1 above.
- **receiving at least one command relating to one of stapling or duplexing being performed on each of the number of copies to be printed;**
- Please see claims 13 and 14 above.

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- **displaying a first feature to a user that informs the user that the application may have a problem printing multiple copies and instructs the user on how to access the print driver UI;**
- Please see claims 5 and 15 above.
- **offering the user to select a second number of copies to be printed;**
- Please see claims 2 above.
- **offering the user to select there is a problem printing multiple copies**
- Please see claim 4 above.
- **transferring control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver**
- Please see the last limitation of claim 1 above.
- **displaying a second feature to the user that explains the purpose and function of transferring control of printing the copies from the application to the print driver**
- Please see claim 8 above.
- **reporting to the application that one copy will be printed.**
- If one copy is selected in the number of copies box in page 290 of McComb, then one will be printed.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yixing Qin whose telephone number is (571)272-7381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571)272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YQ


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